

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.T.E. 05-44 June 1, 2005

Petition of Boston Edison Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric requesting approval of (1) a proposed reduction to its transition charge, (2) a proposed reduction in its distribution rates in accordance with a settlement approved in D.T.E. 03-88, and (3) a proposed increase to its distribution rates related to the end of standard offer service.

On May 24, 2005, Boston Edison Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric ("BECo") filed with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") tariffs, effective July 1, 2005, designed to (1) reduce its transition charge from an average rate of 2.335 cents per kilowatthour ("KWH") to an average rate of 1.634 cents per KWH (a reduction of 0.701 cents per KWH or 30.0 percent) in order to avoid overcollecting transition costs by a projected \$69 million at the end of 2005; (2) reduce the distribution rates of all rate classes by an average rate of 0.047 cents per KWH in order to implement a settlement approved by the Department in Default Service Costs, D.T.E. 03-88 (2005); and (3) increase the distribution rates of rate classes R-2, R-4, G-1, and T-1 in order to eliminate the reductions that were implemented to meet the Restructuring Act's rate cap requirements, which expired on February 28, 2005. The proposed rate changes will decrease the monthly bill for the average residential customer using 500 KWH of electricity by \$3.74 or 4.7 percent.

Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Thursday, June 9, 2005**. All written comments must be filed with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, as follows: an original and four (4) copies with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary. In addition, one copy of all written comments must be sent to counsel for BECo, Robert N. Werlin, Keegan Werlin, LLP, 265 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110-3113.

All written documents should also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us and to Shaela.Collins@state.ma.us; or (2) on a 3.5" disk, IBM-compatible format. The text of the e-mail or the disk label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.T.E. 05-44), (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing, and (3) a brief descriptive title of the

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document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be created in either Corel WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, or as an Adobe-compatible PDF file. Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. Documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's Website, http://www.mass.gov/dte.

A copy of this filing is available at the Department's offices, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts for public viewing during business hours. Copies are also on file for public viewing at BECo's office, 800 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02199. Any person desiring further information regarding BECo's filing should contact Robert N. Werlin, Esquire, at (617) 951-1400. Any person desiring further information regarding this notice should contact Shaela McNulty Collins, Hearing Officer, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, at (617) 305-3500.

BECo shall serve a copy of this notice on all the participants in <u>Boston Edison Company</u>, D.P.U./D.T.E. 96-23 (1998); <u>Boston Edison Company</u>, D.T.E. 97-113 (1998); <u>Boston Edison Company</u>, D.T.E. 02-80A (2003); <u>Boston Edison Company</u>, D.T.E. 03-117 (2003), and <u>Boston Edison Company</u>, D.T.E. 04-113, and to any person who has filed a request for notice with BECo no later than **Friday**, **June 3**, **2005**, and make return of service at the close of the comment period.

By Order of the Department,

MARY L. COTTRELL, SECRETARY